

The Anthracite Strike Commission proceedings in Scranton, PA:

In November (from the 14th to the 22nd) and December (from the 3rd to the 20th) 1902 the Commission heard testimony in the Lackawanna County Courthouse in the Lackawanna County Courthouse Superior Courtroom (now Courtroom No. 3). Clarence Darrow was the attorney for the miners' team; former U. S. Attorney general Wayne MacVeagh, was the attorney for the operators' group. Mitchell testified, not as president of the UMW but as the "representative of the anthracite mine workers" and presented the demands of the unionized mine workers to the Commission. Represented by Clarence Darrow, Mitchell was the first and most celebrated witness of the public hearings.

Because of the significance of these proceedings in the Lackawanna County Courthouse, the statue on the grounds of the Courthouse as well as the Courthouse were added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1997.

The photograph shown below was formerly in the collection of Charles Melville, Jr., 49 Lincoln Avenue, Carbondale, PA. In the lower left corner of this photograph we read: 'Copyright 1902 / T. E. Dillon / Scranton, Pa.' The copy of this photograph shown here is a scanned copy of an original print of this T. E. Dillon photograph in the archives of the Carbondale Historical Society. This is a photograph of the Anthracite Coal Strike Commission in session in Courtroom No. 3, Lackawanna County Courthouse, Scranton, PA. Seen in this photograph are three members of the Anthracite Strike Commission (Baer, Wilson, Spalding) as well as Clarence Darrow and John Mitchell. Our thanks to Bob McDonough, Olyphant, for his help in identifying those five persons in this photograph.



Anthracite Strike Commission, in Session, Courtroom No. 3, Lackawanna County Courthouse Scranton, PA, November 17, 1902. Photo in the collection of the Carbondale D&H Transportation Museum.